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Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 6, with the following rewritten paragraph.

Mechanical switches for detecting the position of the end of a brush are known from DE 199 32 628 A1 and DE 196 49 212 A1. US Patent 4,918,348 describes a contact arrangement in which a contact member is designed as a contacting pressure spring. These devices have the advantage of being of relatively low cost and easy to fabricate. However, they are not particularly robust, because requirements of size permit the use of only relatively small and therefore ~~filigrane~~ fragile contact members. These contacts are liable to be mechanically damaged, particularly during a replacement of carbon brushes, ~~then~~ they will no longer indicate the presence of a worn brush. Furthermore, these contacts may be contaminated by carbon dust or other abraded material with the result of their electrical and mechanical operation being impaired.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 6, with the following rewritten paragraph.

~ a pressurized air line connecting the pump to a nozzle provided in the vicinity of the object to be measured, so that pressurized air from the pump flows through the pressurized air line and the nozzle onto the object to be measured;